



Schoharie County Board Of Supervisors

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Richard Lape
Chairman

Larry Bradt
Vice Chairman

June 11, 2015

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

In April of this year, the Medical Society of the State of New York passed a Resolution calling for **"governmental assessment of the health and environmental risks that are associated with natural gas pipelines."** The Schoharie County Board of Supervisors then passed a Resolution calling for all NY County governing bodies to support the MSSNY request.

Just this week, the American Medical Association passed a Resolution at their Annual Meeting in Chicago **"that our AMA recognize the potential impact on human health associated with natural gas infrastructure; and be it further**

Resolved, that our AMA support legislation that would require a Comprehensive Health Impact Assessment regarding the health risks that may be associated with natural gas pipelines."

I encourage you to look into the detailed 'Whereas' sections of these Resolutions. There is a strong parallel between the rationale for the physicians' concerns about natural gas infrastructure and delivery systems, and the concerns expressed by Commissioner Zucker last December about health impacts of unconventional shale gas wells.

In the interests of a consistent and proactive policy of protecting public health and safety, I would hope that you take the following steps in response to the MSNNY and AMA Resolutions:

1. Ask the NY DEC to institute an immediate freeze on new air and water quality permits for all natural gas infrastructure project applications;
2. Ask the NY DOH to gather and review all research available which is relevant to the concerns expressed in the Resolutions described above; and
3. Follow the same steps and rationale in assessing the public health and safety impacts of gas pipelines and related infrastructure as were developed in the case of unconventional shale gas wells.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this request.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Lape".

Richard Lape, Chairman
Schoharie County Board of Supervisors